



Classrooms for the Future @ Blairsville Saltsburg School District



Important Dates:

- 9/29—CFF Course begins for participating teachers
- 10/6—10/10 Student and teacher surveys on CFF dashboard

About Classrooms for the Future (CFF)

Classrooms for the Future is about recognizing and embracing the need for high school reform, enabling teachers to use technology as an effective tool for educating students, and preparing students to enter and successfully compete in the ever-expanding high-tech global marketplace.

This initiative will transform the way high school teachers teach and how students learn by providing funds to equip these schools' English, math, science and social studies classrooms with state-of-the art resources. Just as importantly, state and federal funds will be used to provide teachers and school leaders extensive training on how to best harness the power of technology to increase student achievement and ensure students are ready for college and the high-tech global job market.

Today's students are growing up with technology and in a cyber-world. That is another reason this program is so important. **Classrooms for the Future** will create learning environments that students will find engaging and that will pique their interests - a critical component to boosting student achievement.

From the Pennsylvania Department of Education Website, 2008

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Coach's Contact Information

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Saltsburg:

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Blairsville High School

Support	Brandon Scardina	Course 2	Year 1
Math	Greg Kaylor	Course 2	Year 1
Math	Drew Miller	Course 2	Year 1
Social Studies	Neil Stone	Course 2	Year 1
Social Studies	Jaison Blystone*	Course 1	Year 2
English	Mark Wydareny	Course 2	Year 1
English	John Brady	Course 1	Year 2
English	Andrea Delfavero	Course 1	Year 2
English	Nancy Clawson*	Course 1	Year 2
Science	Kevin Lopata	Facilitator	Year 1

Saltsburg Middle High School

Support	Beth Ann Laub	Course 1	Year 1
Math	John Hamp	Course 2	Year 1
Math	Lisa Shimer	Course 1	Year 1
Social Studies	Barb Cooper	Course 2	Year 1
Social Studies	Allison Weir	Course 1	Year 2
Social Studies	Sharon Highberger*		Year 2
English	Kevin Judge	Course 2	Year 1
English	Lauren Pishney	Course 1	Year 2
English	Geoff Dixon*		Year 2
Science	Linsey Palazzi	Course 2	Year 1

*Indicates partially equipped room; sharing student laptops.

The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn, and relearn.

~Alvin Toffler

CFF Coach

Last year, Kevin Lopata provided outstanding support for the Year I CFF teachers and will continue to be involved with the Embedded Learning professional development course. According to the PA Department of Education,

Classrooms for the Future Coaches serve as part of their school's leadership team, providing "just in time," imbedded and ongoing professional development for teachers, staff, and administration. Coaches ensure that school staff acquire the understanding and skills to develop the on-site capacity to sustain and deepen teachers' capacity to integrate technology into classroom instruction in core academic areas, use data to make informed instructional choices, and promote instruction that is individualized for all students.

For the 08-09 school year, I'll be taking on the role of CFF coach at both high schools in the district. **I am here to assist, co-teach, or help in any way needed.** Please don't hesitate to call, email, or stop by any time. I look forward to working with you! -Stacie

Required 30 hour Professional Development

Teachers involved in or impacted by Classrooms for the Future including teachers who will be getting fully equipped rooms (teacher laptop, projector, cart with student laptops, white board, all other equipment), and teachers who receive some equipment (fully equipped rooms, but not student laptops) or teachers continuing in the grant **are required to complete a 30 hour course per year.**

New teachers must complete the Need for Change course. Teachers continuing in the grant for their second year must complete the Teaching Authentic in the Subject Area Course.

The courses will be part of the series, *21st Century Teaching and Learning*, created by Learning Sciences International for the Embedded Learning Academy. Activities include online participation, readings, reflection, local face to face discussion groups, action research and action planning.

The courses will be considered your 08-09 Professional Learning Community and will be completed over the course of the five scheduled Act 80 and In-service days during the school year. If you have questions or concerns about taking the required course, **please see your building administrator.**

Act 80 / In Service Days:

September 29

October 10

November 11

January 19

January 30

Conferences

Money is available for CFF teachers to attend educational technology conferences, so if you're interested, please submit one of the conference request forms found on the shared folder under BSSD Forms.

PETE&C February 8-11, 2009

The annual PETE&C (Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo and Conference) will be held at the Hershey Convention Center .<http://www.peteandc.org>

Penn State University 1:1 Conference April 27-29, 2009

This conference is for educational leaders on the creation of learning environments in which every student has access to a computer. Classrooms for the Future schools using one-to-one computing environments will not want to miss this opportunity to engage in conversations that can result in more effective use of these potentially powerful technologies. Additional information will be available at: <http://1to1.ed.psu.edu/conference>

National Educational Computing Conference (NECC)

Washington, DC June 28 – July 1, 2009

Sponsored by the International Society for Technology in Education. This is the premier educational technology conference in the country bringing over 18,000 educators, over 400 exhibitors, 1,100 concurrent sessions, keynote speakers and opportunities to network with educators from around the world. Put this conference on your calendar and bring a team.www.iste.org

